Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-02 L-03 A-01 INR-07 PM-04 NSC-05

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2558

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AMCONSUL ADANA

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ANKARA 1466

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS, MARR, PFOR, TU

SUBJ: SALE OF POV'S AND HOUSEHOLD ITEMS BELONGING TO DEPARTING

MILITARY PERSONNEL

1. ON FEBRUARY 24 MUTUAL SECURITY AFFAIRS COUNSELOR GARDNER CALLED ON MFA DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS ASULA TO EXPRESS CONCERN OVER HARDSHIP BEING CAUSED DEPARTING MILITARY PERSONNEL BY GOT CUSTOMS AUTHORITIES' REFUSAL TO PERMIT THE TRANSFER OF PRIVATELY OWNED VEHICLES AND CERTAIN HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS (BEYANNAME ITEMS) TO OTHER MILITARY PERSONNEL. REFERRING TO PREVIOUS STATEMENT BY ASULA THAT "ADMINISTRATIVE MEANS" HAD BEEN FOUND TO PERMIT SUCH TRANSFERS, GARDNER NOTED THAT CUSTOMS AUTHORITIES SEEMED TO HAVE RECEIVED NO INSTRUCTIONS IN THIS REGARD AND DEPARTING MILITARY PERSONNEL WERE FORCED IN MANY INSTANCES TO ABANDON VALUABLE POSSESSIONS OT CUSTOMS. GARDNER PROVIDED ASULA REPRESENTATIVE STATISTICS ON HARDSHIPS BEING INCURRED, WHICH HE NOTED HAD BECOME SUBJECT TO CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRIES.

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2. ASULA ACKNOWLEDGED THAT INSTRUCTIONS TO LOCAL

CUSTOMS AUTHORITIES TO PERMIT TRANSFERS OF POV'S AND BEYANNAME ITEMS BETWEEN MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY FORCE HAD BEEN HELD UP BY "OTHER AUTHORITIES," ON GROUNDS THAT THEY WOULD CONSTITUTE PARTIAL RESTITUTION OF 1954 SOFA IMPLEMENTATION AGREEMENT, WHICH HAD BEEN DECLARED INVALID BY CABINET DECISION. MFA HAD NOT RPT NOT PRESSED ISSUE FURTHER, ASULA REVEALED, IN EXPECTATION THAT FOREIGN MINISTER CAGLAYANGIL WOULD REINSTITUTE IMPLEMENTATION AGREEMENT DURING PLANNED FEBRUARY VISIT TO WASHINGTON. ASULA AGREED THAT RESOLUTION OF THIS PROBLEM SHOULD NOT RPT NOT BE DEFERRED UNTIL FOREIGN MINISTER'S MARCH 24-25 VISIT AND SAID HE WOULD PRESS FOR EARLY INSTRUCTIONS TO CUSTOMS AUTHORITIES TO CORRECT IT. MACOMBER

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: MILITARY PERSONNEL, HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS, PERSONNEL TRAVEL, CUSTOMS CLEARANCES

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TAGS: MASS, MARR, PFOR, TU, US To: STATE

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